The Council re-assembled at the Council Chamber, Fort St. George, at 11 a.m. on Friday, the 2nd February 1923, the hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir P. RAJAGOPALA ACHARIYAR Avargal, K.C.S.I., C.I.E., President, presiding.

I

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

[*Order made by the President of the Madras Legislative Council under Standing Order No.* 15—

(1) Printed copies of the questions and answers to be put and given at a meeting of the Council shall be placed on the Council table an hour before the President takes his seat.

(2) The questions shall be put and answered in the following manner:—

The Secretary shall call the name of each interpellator in alphabetical order, specify the serial numbers of his questions and make a sufficient pause to allow him or any other member a reasonable opportunity of rising in his place if he is desirous of asking a supplementary question. Supplementary questions must be put immediately after the principal questions to which they relate.]

Pay of attenders in the Revenue department.

760 *Q.*—Mr. A. M. AHMAD MIRAN SAHIB: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(1) whether it is a fact that attenders in the Revenue departments in mufassal are paid Rs. 12, while attenders with the same qualifications in other departments are paid Rs. 20 and upwards;

(2) if the answer is in the affirmative what is the reason for this difference; and

(3) whether the Government have on hand any proposal to increase the pay of the Revenue attenders to the level of that in other departments?

A.—(1) & (2) Attenders in the Revenue department in the mufassal have been placed in the scale Rs. 12—18. The work which these persons do could and should be done mainly by peons. In other departments a higher rate of pay has been fixed with reference to the nature of the work with which they have been entrusted.

(3) No.

Inspectors of co-operative societies in Ernad and Walavanad.

761 *Q.*—Mr. A. D. M. BAVOTTI SAHIB: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of inspectors of co-operative societies in the Ernad and Walavanad taluks of Malabar;

(*b*) how many of them are Muhammadans; and

(*c*) whether the Government think that the present number of inspectors is sufficient for the two taluks?

A.—The information has been called for.

Water-supply in Salem town.

762 *Q.*—Rao Sahib S. ELLAPPA CHETTIYAR: With reference to question No. 422 and the answer thereto, dated the 1st September 1921, regarding water-supply to private houses in Salem, will the hon. the Minister for Local

[2nd February 1923

Self-Government be pleased to state whether orders have been passed on the resolution of the Salem municipality, No. R.O.C. 137 G.C. of 1922, dated the 25th December 1921, and the subsequent reminders sent on the 8th May 1922, 13th July 1922 and 13th September 1922 regarding water-supply to private houses in Salem?

A.—The issue of final orders on the letter of the Chairman, Municipal Council, Salem, No. 137 G.C., dated 25th December 1921, regarding water-works by-laws, has been deferred pending the framing of the model by-laws on the subjct which the Government had then under consideration. The model by-laws on this and other subjects have since been drafted and will shortly be published for the guidance of all local bodies in framing their own regulations.

The further communications from the Chairman, referred to by the hon. Member, have been received and replied to.

Building grant to Salem College.

763 *Q.*—Rao Sahib S. Ellappa Chettiyar: With reference to question No. 423 and the reply thereto, dated the 1st September 1921, regarding a building grant to Salem College, will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) what action has been taken on the plans and estimates submitted to the Government by the Salem municipality under their letter No. R.O.C. 10 G.C. of 13th May 1922; and

(*b*) whether there is any likelihood of giving the promised grant for the building at an early date as the want of accommodation is very much felt?

A.—In 1913 the Government undertook to construct from Provincial funds a new building for the Salem College, and plans and estimates for the building were prepared by the Public Works Department. Owing to the present financial stringency the scheme, which is estimated to cost over two lakhs, cannot be proceeded with.

Assignment of land to Arundhateyas.

764 *Q.*—Mr. L. C. Guruswami: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased—

(*a*) to state whether any poramboke lands set apart for assignment to the depressed classes have been assigned to the members of the Arundhateya (Madiga) community in the various districts of the Presidency since 1921; and

(*b*) if so, to lay on the table a statement showing the number of Arundhateyas who were benefited by these assignments and the extent of land assigned in each district?

A.—No separate information is available for the extent of land granted to any particular section of the depressed classes.

Adi-Dravida member on the South Arcot District Board and Cuddalore Taluk Board.

765 *Q.*—Rao Bahadur M. C. Raja: With reference to the answer given by the Government to question No. 664, at the meeting of the Council on